

U.S. Appln. No. 10/039,324
Amendment Dated November 23, 2005
Reply to Office Action of August 23, 2005
Docket No. 7042-10

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The foregoing proposed amendment presents amended claims 1 and 10, original claims 3-7, and previously presented claims 11-17. Claims 2, 8 and 9 have been cancelled.

As a result of this amendment, claims 1, 3-7, and 10-17 remain in the application. Allowance of claims 1-17 as amended is respectfully requested.


The Examiner rejected claims 1-7 under 35 USC section 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 5,819,160 (Foladare) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,700,926 (Heikkila). The examiner further rejected claim 8 in view of Foladare, Heikkila and further in view of Novak, U.S. Patent No. 4,750,213 (Novak).

The examiner objected to former claims 9-17, but found them allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant has rewritten claim 1 to include the elements of previous claim 9. Likewise, Applicant revised claim 10 into a separate independent claiming all the elements of the previously amended claim 1. Thus, Applicant believes claims 1, 3-7, and 10-17 as amended overcome the rejection based on 35 USC 103(a).

Consequently, an indication of allowability is respectfully requested. Should any minor points remain prior to the issuance of a Notice of Allowance, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: Nov. 23, 2005


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